

MOTION UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 2255 TO VACATE, SET ASIDE, OR CORRECT  
SENTENCE BY A PERSON IN FEDERAL CUSTODY

<b>United States District Court</b>	District      SDNY	
Name ( <i>under which you were convicted</i> ): <b>AHMED MOHAMMED EL GAMMAL</b>		Docket or Case No.: <b>15 CR 588-01 (ER)</b>
Place of Confinement: <b>TERMINAL ISLAND FCI</b>		Prisoner No.: <b>47198-408</b>
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA V. AHMED MOHAMMED EL GAMMAL		Movant ( <i>include name under which convicted</i> )

**MOTION**

1. (a) Name and location of court which entered the judgment of conviction you are challenging:

District Court for the Southern District of New York

(b) Criminal docket or case number (if you know): 15 CR 588-01 (ER)

2. (a) Date of the judgment of conviction (if you know): 2/7/2019

(b) Date of sentencing: 12/18/2018

3. Length of sentence: 144 months

4. Nature of crime (all counts):

Providing material support or resources to a foreign terrorist organization, in violation of 18 U.S.C. 2339B (Count One); conspiring to provide material support or resources to a foreign terrorist organization, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2339B (Count Two); aiding and abetting the receipt of military-type training from a foreign terrorist organization, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2339D and 2 (Count Three); and conspiring to have another person receive military-type training from a foreign terrorist organization, in violation of 18 U.S.C. 371 and 2339D (Count Four).

5. (a) What was your plea? (Check one)

(1) Not guilty  (2) Guilty  (3) Nolo contendere (no contest)

6. (b) If you entered a guilty plea to one count or indictment, and a not guilty plea to another count or indictment, what did you plead guilty to and what did you plead not guilty to?

6. If you went to trial, what kind of trial did you have? (Check one)

Jury

Judge only

7. Did you testify at a pretrial hearing, trial, or post-trial hearing?

Yes

No

AO 243 (Rev. 09/17)

8. Did you appeal from the judgment of conviction? Yes  No
9. If you did appeal, answer the following:
- (a) Name of court: Second Circuit Court of Appeals
  - (b) Docket or case number (if you know): 19-468
  - (c) Result: Judgment of the District Court Affirmed
  - (d) Date of result (if you know): 12/11/2020
  - (e) Citation to the case (if you know): United States v. El Gammal, 831 F. App'x 539 (2d Cir. 2020)
  - (f) Grounds raised:  
(1) whether the District Court abused its discretion in making certain evidentiary rulings, depriving Mr. El Gammal of his right to a fair trial; and (2), whether the District Court erred in charging the jury on conscious avoidance.
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- (g) Did you file a petition for certiorari in the United States Supreme Court? Yes  No
- If "Yes," answer the following:
- (1) Docket or case number (if you know): \_\_\_\_\_
  - (2) Result: \_\_\_\_\_
  - (3) Date of result (if you know): \_\_\_\_\_
  - (4) Citation to the case (if you know): \_\_\_\_\_
  - (5) Grounds raised: \_\_\_\_\_
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10. Other than the direct appeals listed above, have you previously filed any other motions, petitions, or applications, concerning this judgment of conviction in any court?
- Yes  No
11. If your answer to Question 10 was "Yes," give the following information:
- (a) (1) Name of court: \_\_\_\_\_
  - (2) Docket or case number (if you know): \_\_\_\_\_
  - (3) Date of filing (if you know): \_\_\_\_\_

- (4) Nature of the proceeding: \_\_\_\_\_  
(5) Grounds raised:

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(6) Did you receive a hearing where evidence was given on your motion, petition, or application?

Yes  No

(7) Result: \_\_\_\_\_

(8) Date of result (if you know): \_\_\_\_\_

(b) If you filed any second motion, petition, or application, give the same information:

(1) Name of court: \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Docket of case number (if you know): \_\_\_\_\_

(3) Date of filing (if you know): \_\_\_\_\_

(4) Nature of the proceeding: \_\_\_\_\_

(5) Grounds raised:

(6) Did you receive a hearing where evidence was given on your motion, petition, or application?

Yes  No

(7) Result: \_\_\_\_\_

(8) Date of result (if you know): \_\_\_\_\_

(c) Did you appeal to a federal appellate court having jurisdiction over the action taken on your motion, petition, or application?

(1) First petition: Yes  No

(2) Second petition: Yes  No

(d) If you did not appeal from the action on any motion, petition, or application, explain briefly why you did not:

12. For this motion, state every ground on which you claim that you are being held in violation of the Constitution, laws, or treaties of the United States. Attach additional pages if you have more than four grounds. State the facts supporting each ground. Any legal arguments must be submitted in a separate memorandum.

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**GROUND ONE:** Whether Mr. El Gammal's Appellate counsel was ineffective for failing to challenge Mr. El Gammal's conviction on Counts Three and Four?

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- (a) Supporting facts (Do not argue or cite law. Just state the specific facts that support your claim.):

See accompanying memorandum for supporting facts.

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**(b) Direct Appeal of Ground One:**

- (1) If you appealed from the judgment of conviction, did you raise this issue?

Yes  No

- (2) If you did not raise this issue in your direct appeal, explain why:

Ineffective assistance of Appellate Counsel.

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**(c) Post-Conviction Proceedings:**

- (1) Did you raise this issue in any post-conviction motion, petition, or application?

Yes  No

- (2) If you answer to Question (c)(1) is "Yes," state:

Type of motion or petition: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and location of the court where the motion or petition was filed: \_\_\_\_\_

Docket or case number (if you know): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of the court's decision: \_\_\_\_\_

Result (attach a copy of the court's opinion or order, if available): \_\_\_\_\_

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- (3) Did you receive a hearing on your motion, petition, or application?

Yes  No

(4) Did you appeal from the denial of your motion, petition, or application?

Yes  No

(5) If your answer to Question (c)(4) is "Yes," did you raise the issue in the appeal?

Yes  No

(6) If your answer to Question (c)(4) is "Yes," state:

Name and location of the court where the appeal was filed:

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Docket or case number (if you know): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of the court's decision: \_\_\_\_\_

Result (attach a copy of the court's opinion or order, if available): \_\_\_\_\_

(7) If your answer to Question (c)(4) or Question (c)(5) is "No," explain why you did not appeal or raise this issue:

**GROUND TWO:** Whether Mr. El Gammal's Appellate counsel was ineffective for failing to challenge the 12-point enhancement under U.S.S.G. § 3A4.1 and the two-point enhancement under U.S.S.G. § 2M5.3?

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(a) Supporting facts (Do not argue or cite law. Just state the specific facts that support your claim.):

See accompanying memorandum for supporting facts.

(b) Direct Appeal of Ground Two:

(1) If you appealed from the judgment of conviction, did you raise this issue?

Yes  No

(2) If you did not raise this issue in your direct appeal, explain why:

Ineffective assistance of counsel.

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(c) **Post-Conviction Proceedings:**

(1) Did you raise this issue in any post-conviction motion, petition, or application?

Yes  No

(2) If you answer to Question (c)(1) is "Yes," state:

Type of motion or petition:

Name and location of the court where the motion or petition was filed:

Docket or case number (if you know):

Date of the court's decision:

Result (attach a copy of the court's opinion or order, if available):

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(3) Did you receive a hearing on your motion, petition, or application?

Yes  No

(4) Did you appeal from the denial of your motion, petition, or application?

Yes  No

(5) If your answer to Question (c)(4) is "Yes," did you raise the issue in the appeal?

Yes  No

(6) If your answer to Question (c)(4) is "Yes," state:

Name and location of the court where the appeal was filed:

Docket or case number (if you know):

Date of the court's decision:

Result (attach a copy of the court's opinion or order, if available):

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(7) If your answer to Question (c)(4) or Question (c)(5) is "No," explain why you did not appeal or raise this issue:

**GROUND THREE:** \_\_\_\_\_

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(a) Supporting facts (Do not argue or cite law. Just state the specific facts that support your claim.):

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(b) **Direct Appeal of Ground Three:**

- (1) If you appealed from the judgment of conviction, did you raise this issue?  
Yes  No   
(2) If you did not raise this issue in your direct appeal, explain why:

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(c) **Post-Conviction Proceedings:**

- (1) Did you raise this issue in any post-conviction motion, petition, or application?  
Yes  No

- (2) If you answer to Question (c)(1) is "Yes," state:

Type of motion or petition: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and location of the court where the motion or petition was filed: \_\_\_\_\_

Docket or case number (if you know): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of the court's decision: \_\_\_\_\_

Result (attach a copy of the court's opinion or order, if available): \_\_\_\_\_

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- (3) Did you receive a hearing on your motion, petition, or application?

Yes  No

- (4) Did you appeal from the denial of your motion, petition, or application?

Yes  No

- (5) If your answer to Question (c)(4) is "Yes," did you raise the issue in the appeal?

Yes  No

(6) If your answer to Question (c)(4) is "Yes," state:

Name and location of the court where the appeal was filed:

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Docket or case number (if you know): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of the court's decision: \_\_\_\_\_

Result (attach a copy of the court's opinion or order, if available):  
\_\_\_\_\_

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(7) If your answer to Question (c)(4) or Question (c)(5) is "No," explain why you did not appeal or raise this issue:  
\_\_\_\_\_

**GROUND FOUR:** \_\_\_\_\_

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(a) Supporting facts (Do not argue or cite law. Just state the specific facts that support your claim.):  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**(b) Direct Appeal of Ground Four:**

(1) If you appealed from the judgment of conviction, did you raise this issue?

Yes  No

(2) If you did not raise this issue in your direct appeal, explain why:  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**(c) Post-Conviction Proceedings:**

(1) Did you raise this issue in any post-conviction motion, petition, or application?

Yes  No

(2) If you answer to Question (c)(1) is "Yes," state:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Type of motion or petition: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and location of the court where the motion or petition was filed: \_\_\_\_\_

Docket or case number (if you know): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of the court's decision: \_\_\_\_\_

Result (attach a copy of the court's opinion or order, if available): \_\_\_\_\_

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(3) Did you receive a hearing on your motion, petition, or application?

Yes  No

(4) Did you appeal from the denial of your motion, petition, or application?

Yes  No

(5) If your answer to Question (c)(4) is "Yes," did you raise the issue in the appeal?

Yes  No

(6) If your answer to Question (c)(4) is "Yes," state:

Name and location of the court where the appeal was filed: \_\_\_\_\_

Docket or case number (if you know): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of the court's decision: \_\_\_\_\_

Result (attach a copy of the court's opinion or order, if available): \_\_\_\_\_

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(7) If your answer to Question (c)(4) or Question (c)(5) is "No," explain why you did not appeal or raise this issue:

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13. Is there any ground in this motion that you have not previously presented in some federal court? If so, which ground or grounds have not been presented, and state your reasons for not presenting them:

14. Do you have any motion, petition, or appeal now pending (filed and not decided yet) in any court for the  
you are challenging? Yes  No

If "Yes," state the name and location of the court, the docket or case number, the type of proceeding, and the  
issues raised.

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15. Give the name and address, if known, of each attorney who represented you in the following stages of the  
judgment you are challenging:

(a) At the preliminary hearing:

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(b) At the arraignment and plea:

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(c) At the trial:

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(d) At sentencing:

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(e) On appeal:

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(f) In any post-conviction proceeding:

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(g) On appeal from any ruling against you in a post-conviction proceeding:

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16. Were you sentenced on more than one court of an indictment, or on more than one indictment, in the same court  
and at the same time? Yes  No

17. Do you have any future sentence to serve after you complete the sentence for the judgment that you are  
challenging? Yes  No

(a) If so, give name and location of court that imposed the other sentence you will serve in the future:

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(b) Give the date the other sentence was imposed: \_\_\_\_\_

(c) Give the length of the other sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

(d) Have you filed, or do you plan to file, any motion, petition, or application that challenges the judgment or  
sentence to be served in the future? Yes  No

18. TIMELINESS OF MOTION: If your judgment of conviction became final over one year ago, you must explain why the one-year statute of limitations as contained in 28 U.S.C. § 2255 does not bar your motion.\*

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\* The Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996 (“AEDPA”) as contained in 28 U.S.C. § 2255, paragraph 6, provides in part that:

A one-year period of limitation shall apply to a motion under this section. The limitation period shall run from the latest of –

- (1) the date on which the judgment of conviction became final;
- (2) the date on which the impediment to making a motion created by governmental action in violation of the Constitution or laws of the United States is removed, if the movant was prevented from making such a motion by such governmental action;
- (3) the date on which the right asserted was initially recognized by the Supreme Court, if that right has been newly recognized by the Supreme Court and made retroactively applicable to cases on collateral review; or
- (4) the date on which the facts supporting the claim or claims presented could have been discovered through the exercise of due diligence.

Therefore, movant asks that the Court grant the following relief:

Grant the writ, and order that the Petitioner's conviction on Count Three and Four be vacated, and order re-sentencing on Counts One and Two.

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or any other relief to which movant may be entitled.

*Sarah Kunstler*  
Signature of Attorney (if any)

I declare (or certify, verify, or state) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this Motion under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 was placed in the prison mailing system on \_\_\_\_\_.

(month, date, year)

Executed (signed) on 5/3/2022 (date)

*Ahmed El Gammal (SK)*  
Signature of Movant

If the person signing is not movant, state relationship to movant and explain why movant is not signing this motion.

Attorney submitting (and signing) on behalf of movant with movant's consent.